



186 Center Street
Suite 290
Clinton, NJ 08809
(908) 735-9315
Fax (908) 735-2132

March 15, 2021

VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL

Ms. Diane Salkie
ATTN: Lower Passaic River Remedial Project Manager
Emergency and Remedial Response Division
U.S. EPA, Region 2
290 Broadway, 19th Floor
New York, New York 10007

**Re: Monthly Progress Report No. 166 – February 2021
Lower Passaic River Study Area (LPRSA) Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study
(RI/FS)
CERCLA Docket No. 02-2007-2009**

Dear Ms. Salkie:

de maximis, inc. is submitting this Monthly Progress Report for the above-captioned project on the behalf of the RI/FS Agreement Settling Parties (Cooperative Parties Group or CPG) pursuant to the Administrative Settlement Agreement and Order on Consent (Settlement Agreement or AOC). The Progress Report satisfies the reporting requirements of Paragraph 42 of said Settlement Agreement. The CPG has revised this Progress Report to address the Region's direction in its September 1, 2015 letter about Section (d).

(a) Actions which have been taken to comply with this Settlement Agreement during the previous month.

Meetings/Conference Calls

- On February 4, EPA/CPG MS Teams Meeting regarding 2021 Current Conditions Biota Sampling

Correspondence

- On February 10, Region 2 provided an overview of its thoughts on Current Conditions – Surface Water sampling for 2021.
- On February 15, the CPG forwarded the January 2021 Monthly Progress Report.
- On February 18, EPA provided updated COVID 19 travel procedures to be included in the Current Conditions HASPs.
- On February 23, EPA provided additional information on its 2019 biota sample data analysis

Ms. D. Salkie
LPRSA RI/FS - Progress Report No. 166 – February 2021
March 15, 2021
Page 2 of 3

Work

- CPG continued work on revision and calibration of the Bioaccumulation Model.
- CPG prepared and developed a contingency plan and field modification for high flow sampling (>5,000 cfs) for discussion with Region 2 in the event condition occur over the next few weeks.

(b) Results of Sampling and Tests

- None.

(c) Work planned for the next two months with schedules relating to the overall project schedule for RI/FS completion

- CPG will continue calibration of the Bioaccumulation Model.
- Preparations for a high flow event
- Deployment of PWCM moorings
- Ongoing discussions with EPA on 2021 Current Conditions sampling

(d) Problems encountered and anticipated problems, actual or anticipated delays, and solutions developed and implemented to address actual or anticipated problems or delays.

- Work/travel safety restrictions associated with COVID-19 may impact and/or delay 2021 Current Conditions Sampling field work.

If you have any questions, please contact me at 215-806-7688.

Very truly yours,

de maximis, inc.



Robert Law, Ph.D.
CPG Project Coordinator

cc: Frances Zizila, EPA Region 2 Office of Regional Counsel

Ms. D. Salkie

LPRSA RI/FS - Progress Report No. 166 – February 2021

March 15, 2021

Page 3 of 3

Dawn Lamparello, CPG Coordinating Counsel

Lisa Baron, USACE

Clay Stern, USFWS

Reyhan Mehran, NOAA

Jay Nickerson, NJDEP

Beth Franklin, USACE

David Marabello, CDM-Smith

Scott Kirchner, CDM-Smith